



CUSTOMS & QUARANTINE AGENCY, GUAM

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Director of Customs – James T. McDonald
Chief of Customs – Vincent S.N. Perez

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 9, 2018

CQA Seizes Pesticides and Regulated Seeds

BARRIGADA, GUAM – On Monday March 5, 2018, a k-9/handler team with the Customs and Quarantine Agency's Agriculture Canine Unit alerted to prohibited pesticides and regulated seeds within the bags of two residents returning from Manila, Philippines.

The k-9/handler team referred both travelers for further inspection where it was found that concealed within a large green vacuum sealed bag with no signs of tampering were 50 packets of a prohibited pesticide and separately packaged seeds to include pumpkin, kangkong, and okra seeds.

Kang Kong is classified by USDA as a noxious weed and potential invasive species and Okra seeds are regulated to prevent the entry of pink bollworm.

The pesticides, kangkong seeds and okra seeds were seized by frontline officers and referred to CQA's biosecurity team.

The prohibited pesticides have since been referred to the Guam EPA for action and the seeds are being held by CQA's Biosecurity team at the USDA Plant Inspection Facility until they can be properly destroyed.

For more information, please contact our Public Information Officer Ms. Jessi Santos-Torres at (671) 475-6202 or email jessi.santos-torres@cqa.guam.gov.

